

## ASSOCIATE SUPERINTENDENT APPROVAL

STATE BOARD MEETING DATE September 22, 2008

SUBJECT: Acceptance of 90 Credit Hours of Transfer Credit from a Community College

SUBMITTED BY: Jan Amator, Deputy Associate Superintendent, Highly Qualified Professionals Unit

MANAGEMENT TEAM REVIEW: September 4, 2008

### BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

An Arizona community college through an articulation agreement with a private institution has submitted four (4) teacher preparation programs for State Board approval that allows 90 credit hours of transfer credit from the community college towards a baccalaureate degree. To date, all state and private institutions of higher education seeking State Board approval of teacher preparation programs have complied with the 1996 New Transfer Credit Limits policy articulated to the JLBC in 1996.

The following policy language was formalized by the community colleges and the state universities in a 1996 report to the JLBC (pending loss of funding to both the community college and the state university):

#### New Transfer Credit Limits

“A common limit on the total number of credit hours which will be accepted in transfer from a community college is needed as an umbrella under which to develop the new transfer model. While recognizing the advantages to the transfer student of taking lower-division courses at the community college, this limit should also reflect the recent mandate from the Arizona Board of Regents that the universities’ baccalaureate degree program be reduced to a total of 120 credit hours. Therefore the task force recommends that the universities adopt one-half of the degree requirements plus one course as the limit of the number of credits that can be accepted by transfer from a community college for application to a baccalaureate degree.” Therefore under this policy, sixty-four credit hours are the maximum transfer credits allowable from a community college into a teacher preparation program.

In view of this policy, ADE staff requests direction from the State Board regarding acceptance of 90 credit hours of transfer credit from a community college for teacher preparation programs seeking State Board approval given the 1996 policy approved by the State Board for Community Colleges and the Arizona Board of Regents.

### BOARD ACTION REQUESTED: [ ] INFORMATION [X] ACTION/DESCRIBED BELOW

The State Board provides guidance to ADE staff regarding the acceptance of 90 credit hours of transfer credit from a community college for teacher preparation programs seeking State Board approval.

ATTACHMENTS: YES [ ] NO [X]